
Kingdom of Cambodia
Country strategic opportunities programme
2022-2027
Addendum
Management response to Member States' comments

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Comments from Switzerland	Management response
<p>Switzerland commends on IFAD's aim to work on pro-poor value chains, considering agro-ecological methods for production increase and enhanced market linkages for smallholder farmers Especially IFAD's intention to mobilize grants from internal and external sources, particularly for pro-poor activities falling outside the Government's debt management guidelines for use of loans. This is critical as government strategies and action plans still favour large scale production and export oriented value chains, leaving behind many smallholders and more marginalized groups. UNDAF that the COSOP should align to ends in 2023. We suggest a more forward looking alignment with the other UN agencies in Cambodia. The new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) has longer term horizon, which helps for an enhanced and coherent UN engagement in Cambodia. Support to Cambodia in implementing regionally agreed guidelines, such as the ASEAN agro-forestry guidelines or the ASEAN Responsible Agricultural Investment principles, would be much appreciated. The latter are of particular importance in view of the Cambodian Contract Farming law that is currently being developed. A closer link between the COSOP and Cambodia's climate targets as set in the frame of the UNFCCC by the Ministry of Environment would be welcome.</p>	<p>Management thanks Switzerland for their review and feedback on the Cambodia COSOP, and the comments and suggestions on the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). During the design of the COSOP, the country team held a dedicated session with the United Nations Resident Coordinator (RC) regarding IFAD's country strategy. The RC confirmed that outcome 3 of the UNDAF was broad and will remain generally relevant to the upcoming United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). This was later confirmed in a presentation of the final COSOP to the United Nations Country Team. A midterm review of the COSOP will also be undertaken for further alignment not only with the UNSDCF but with government priorities and policies (such as the cited Cambodian Contract Farming law), as well as any emerging issues. Management would like to once again thank Switzerland for their comments and support to the Cambodia COSOP.</p>